

**MINUTES SELECTBOARD MEETING**  
**Grafton Town Hall Upstairs In Person/Live**  
**With accommodation for persons unable to attend in person via interactive Zoom**

**Monday, September 18, 2023, 6:00 pm**

Present at the meeting in the Town Hall:

Selectboard: Chair Joe Pollio, John Gregory, and Seth Pajcic

Selectboard not present: Vice Chair Cathy Siano-Goodwin and Rich Thompson

Also: Morgan Wilbur, Kim Record, Mike Faulkner, Colby Record, Dottie Cannon, and Don Dougall

Present online: FactTV, Charles Bonin, Amber Stevens, Cheryl Kaufman, and Lissa Kissel.

1. Call to order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Adopt Agenda: It was moved by Seth Pajcic, seconded by John Gregory to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Approve Minutes of the September 5, 2023, meeting: It was moved by Seth Pajcic, seconded by John Gregory, to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2023, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Award bids: John Gregory stated that the stone wall repair project at the Village Pump Park needed to be reviewed by the Department of Historical Preservation, therefore the bid should not be awarded yet.
  - Front Walkway at Town Hall: Noyes Masonry (\$6,000 using reclaimed granite or \$5,200 using new granite for the full 45' length of the building).

It was moved by Seth Pajcic, seconded by John Gregory to award Noyes Masonry the Front Walkway curbing replacement of 45' using new granite for \$5,200. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Highway Report: Mike Faulkner reported that the box culvert projects (Hinkley Brook Road culvert #17 and Putnam Forest Road culvert #2) have finished, except for installing guard rails. The company estimated installing them the following week. Faulkner also said the highway crew would be installing the 30-mile-per-hour speed signs on all sides of the Cambridgeport intersection. He said there had been an extension granted for the Grants-in-Aid project on Anderson Road because of the flooding this past summer. The highway crew will be working on finishing that up, hopefully, this fall.

Joe Pollio said there was a problem with the guard rail installation for the Hinkley Brook Road and Putnam Forest Road box culvert projects. The company installing the guard rails asked the Town for a letter stating they were aware there would not be anchors. Pollio felt the Town should not write a letter, rather they should install the anchors with the guard rails. The cost per anchor was \$1,000 and each box culvert would need 4.

It was moved by John Gregory, seconded by Seth Pajcic to install anchors to the guard rails for the Hinkley Brook Road box culvert #17 and Putnam Forest Road box culvert #2 in the amount of \$8,000. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Clerk/Treasurer: Kim Record said she gave the board members quarterlies and answered a few questions that arose before the meeting. There was some discussion between Record, Mike Faulkner, and John Gregory regarding the culvert budget line item. Gregory wanted to make sure the culverts in that expense were used as stock and not for the flood. Faulkner said he ordered excess during the flood, but the ones that were not used remain at the Highway Garage. That is reflected in the culvert expense. Faulkner differentiated which ones were used for the flood and made sure they were coded correctly.

7. Set Date for Special Town Meeting: Joe Pollio said a date needed to be set for the Special Town Meeting for a vote to take place regarding the Cambridgeport intersection. Seth Pajcic asked if the meeting could be held at the Town Hall or if it would need to be at the Elementary School. After some discussion, it was decided to have the meeting at the Town Hall at 6 p.m.

It was moved by Seth Pajcic, seconded by Joe Pollio to hold the Special Town Meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Grafton Town Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Set Dates for Town Budgeting Discussion: Joe Pollio suggested tentative dates:

- October 16<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. to discuss the highway budget
- October 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. to discuss the general budget
- If needed, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. to discuss the general budget

The rest of the board agreed to the dates presented.

9. Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee: Seth Pajcic asked Colby Record and Morgan Wilbur about doing employee reviews on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. respectively. Both agreed to those times.

10. Other Business: There was no Other Business.

11. Public Comment: Don Dougall inquired about the letters sent to the short-term rental property owners. Joe Pollio and Morgan Wilbur had not heard any feedback.

Dougall said according to the 60% Wastewater meeting, Tighe & Bond's presentation showed a shortfall in the estimated budget. He asked about the drinking water portion. Pollio said the Selectboard had not been given much information, what was said at the 60% Presentation is what the Selectboard knows. They were waiting to hear back from the State to set up a meeting to discuss drinking water more. Dougall asked about voting rights for a project such as this. Seth Pajcic said he asked VLCT and they said the people voting need to be registered voters, therefore, the Windham Foundation would not have a vote unless a member was a registered voter. Dougall mentioned there was \$100,000 set aside for land acquisition and was concerned since Pollio's property was the only potential site. Pollio stated he did not plan on profiting from

this project and still had not given full approval for his property. Dougall asked if the Town could ask the engineering company to simply stop the study. Pollio said it would be foolish to call for a vote and end the study. Discussion about creating a fire district continued. Pajcic said the district's only goal would be to run and manage the system, not be involved with any town issues. Kim Record asked at what point a fire district needs to be in place. Pollio said they were not sure that would be necessary until at least the 90% phase.

Charles Bonin stated it was challenging to hear the board members virtually. He also said he had written to the State and suggested simply monitoring town wells and giving those who fail a filtration system; which would be significantly cheaper than a town-wide system. Pajcic said that was a great suggestion and they would bring discuss it at their next meeting.

12. Next regular meeting: Monday, October 2, 2023, at 6 p.m.

12. Adjourn. It was moved by Seth Pajcic, seconded by John Gregory, to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*Morgan Wilbur*

Morgan Wilbur